

ALLIES GAIN IN BELGIUM, GERMANS IN POLAND, RUSSIANS AT CRACOW

ALLIES FORCING GERMANS BACK ON WEST FRONT

Berlin Admits Offensive Lies With Enemy—French Claim Important Advantages Won—At Albert Allies Push Through Entanglements to Second Line.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—It is indicated by the German war office statement of today that the offensive in the west now rests with the allies. The Berlin communication speaks of a series of hostile attacks, which it is said were repulsed. The French statement, however, asserts that further important advantages have been won by the allies, who apparently are now making an effort to push back the German line at the sharp angle north of Paris where it swings eastward.

At Albert, it said, that the allies, under a heavy fire, pushed through to the entanglements in front of the second line of entrenchments. At several other points, according to the French war office, ground has been won and German trenches have been occupied. In two instances it is admitted that the Germans have made progress.

Advance in Belgium

Paris, Dec. 19.—The French war office this afternoon gave out the following official announcement:

"During the day of December 18 we organized in Belgium the territory won from the enemy the evening before to the south of Dixmude, and we advanced our front to the south of the Inn at Kortekker."

"Our advance to the south of Ypres has been continued over a very different and swampy territory. From the Lys to the Oise we have progressed in the region of Notre Dame de Consolation, to the south of Labasse, by more than one kilometer. During the past two days we also made progress in the direction of Carency St. Laurent and Blangy."

"In spite of very spirited counter attacks, the positions taken by us December 17 have been retained."

Attack Under Fire

"In the region of Albert during the night December 17-18 and during the day of the 18th we advanced under a very violent fire of the enemy and we reached the barbed wire entanglements of the second line of German trenches. To the north of Marcourt we were obliged to abandon a trench occupied the night before and set fire by the enemy by means of hand grenades."

"Several German trenches have been occupied in the region of Mamets and in the vicinity of Lypons three violent counter attacks on the part of the Germans have been repulsed."

"In the region of the Aisne there have been artillery engagements and in Champagne the artillery of the enemy showed December 18 increased activity as compared to the 17th."

Aviators Smash Batteries

"In the Argonne in the forest of La Grurie, we blew up a German undermining trench. Near St. Hubert the enemy, by a very spirited attack succeeded in making slight progress."

"It has been confirmed that on the heights of the Meuse, our fire directed by aviators, demolished two heavy batteries of the enemy and damaged a third battery."

"From the Meuse to the Vosges there is nothing to report. In the Vosges there has been spirited German rifle firing but no attack."

CLAIM VILLA FORCES MUTINY IN LEADER

SAN ANTONIO, Tex., Dec. 19.—A dispatch received by the local Mexican consul today said:

"The Villa garrison at San Luis Potosi revolted against Villa this morning and surrendered the city to General Samuel de los Santos, who is loyal to General Carranza."

SITUATION ALONG POLISH FRONT STILL INDEFINITE

Official Reports Fail to Clear Up Situation—Germans Give No Details of Great Victory, Merely Stating Pursuit Continues—Petrograd Denies Defeat.

LONDON, Dec. 19.—The day's official reports fail to clear up the situation in the east. The German announcement was as indefinite as before, merely stating that in Poland the pursuit of the Russians was continuing and that a Russian cavalry attack on the east Prussian frontier had been defeated.

The German war office announcement of an overwhelming victory in Poland still fails to bring a response from Petrograd. Berlin is puzzled by the absence of details and is said to be experiencing a "shadow of disappointment," although still celebrating the reported victory.

Situation Indefinite

It is evident that Grand Duke Nicholas has drawn in a portion of the Russian front from the Lowicz-flow line to entrenchments nearer Warsaw. There has been no admission from Petrograd, however, of any serious reserves in the field of operations along the Vistula river, such as must necessarily have preceded a general German victory. It is regarded here as quite possible that the Teutonic allies have scored successes in some localities, although there is no information available as to their time or location.

The reserve which Petrograd says the Germans have suffered in the region of Mlawa, near the east Prussian frontier, is believed in London to have interfered with the operations of the Germans along the Vistula. It is asserted unofficially at Petrograd that the Germans have evacuated Lodz, finding that city of no greater strategic value to them than it was to the Russians. Last night's official communication from the Russian war office stated definitely that all Austro-German attacks along the left bank of the Vistula which have been in progress for several days have been repulsed."

Still Attacking Cracow

Whatever are the facts of the situation in the Vistula region, the present situation there apparently is exerting no influence on the crucial operations to the south around Cracow. The Russian forces which are threatening the old Polish capital and the Silesian frontier, remained fixed in their positions, and the Austrian rally which brought back Teutonic forces across the Carpathians seems to have met with a check.

MORE INFANTRY REACHES NACO

NACO, Ariz., Dec. 19.—The sixth brigade of infantry, reinforcing the American cavalry troops already here, began to arrive today. The first train with six companies of the eighteenth regiment came at dawn. It is expected that most of the brigade will arrive by night.

DEEP SNOW REPLACES SWISS FRONTIER GUARDS

GENEVA, Switzerland, via London, Dec. 19.—With the winter snows in full possession of the border districts, Switzerland begins to feel that her frontiers are safe from violation until spring. Orders already have been issued for the demobilization of three divisions of the frontier guard. None of the Alpine passes, which are important from a tactical point of view are regarded as passable after the first heavy snowfall.

GLIMPSES OF RECENTLY COMPLETED PORTIONS OF THE PACIFIC HIGHWAY IN JACKSON COUNTY



Left shows cut on Siskiyou grade; right shows paved highway near Talent—Highway work forms a special feature of the New Year's issue.

SHIP 847 CARS WOOD PRODUCTS IN DULL YEAR

Total for Present Year Exceeds Capacity of Proposed Hafer Plant—Money All Sent Out of County to Support Payrolls in Other Places—Hafer's Proposal.

Edgar Hafer, who formerly operated the Crater Lake Lumber company and the Iowa Lumber company box factory in Medford, is formulating a proposal to the people of Jackson county regarding the establishment of a lumber mill and box factory to care for local business. The statistics compiled show that even in the quietest of years like the present, there is enough local demand for lumber to exceed the capacity of the proposed plant. Mr. Hafer's proposal is as follows:

Hafer's Proposal

"To the People of Jackson County: There are in Jackson county, Oregon, today as standing timber more than 20,000,000,000 feet available for manufacturing purposes, and at the present price of labor it costs \$8 per 1000 feet to manufacture the same into lumber."

"In order to manufacture the available standing timber in Jackson county into lumber at the rate of 500,000,000 feet per annum, it will require forty years to cut the present stand; and the increased growth of timber in Jackson county would offset a manufactured product of the timber standing of 500,000,000 feet per year. If there were 500,000,000 feet of timber manufactured into lumber in Jackson county at the cost of \$8.00 per thousand feet, it would represent an outlay in labor of \$4,000,000 per annum, and it would require 6,000 men working each day to turn out the product."

Million Going Out

The aggregate deposits in the several banks in Jackson county, Oregon, approximate \$3,000,000 and it is an astonishing, though an indisputable fact, that within the past five years there has been more money sent out of the Rogue River valley for lumber and boxes than the combined deposits in all of the Jackson County banks at this time. Unless a manufacturing industry to utilize the local stand of lumber is instituted, this drain will continue even as it has during the previous five years.

The Southern Pacific company have furnished me with statement of lumber and lumber products used for building purposes, box shooks, and wood, received at stations Rogue River to Ashland inclusive, November 1, 1913, to October 31, 1914, inclusive. Not including lumber, ties, etc.

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ROW UPON FLOOR OF HOUSE TODAY

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Chairman Moon of the postoffice committee and Representative Heflin of Alabama had a row on the floor of the house late today which other members feared would develop into blows.

Representative Heflin launched into a denunciation of Representative Moon's declaration that "railroad influence" had defeated a special rule to provide consideration of certain postal reforms and that democrats who had voted against it had "betrayed" the democratic administration.

"I denounce the statement as absolutely untrue," shouted Heflin.

"You don't dare to say that to me except on this floor," returned Moon.

"I am willing to say anything outside I have said here," retorted Heflin, and as both men advanced with threatening gestures other members sprang between them.

Hostilities died away as suddenly as they had begun.

THINK MARTIN BUILT UP EVIDENCE OF SELF DEFENSE AFTER CRIME

FEDERAL CONTROL OF WATER POWER URGED BY FISHER

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Pre-eminence of federal control of water power was urged today by Walter L. Fisher, formerly secretary of the interior, before the senate lands committee considering the water power site leasing bill. Senators led by Senator Smoot contending for state's rights, subjected him to a prolonged examination.

WAR SHIPMENTS TO BELLIGERENTS

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—In response to Senator Hitchcock's resolution for information on shipments of war munitions from the United States Secretary Redfield submitted today a report giving data so far as available. There are 15,000 firms in the country, he said, that could export munitions and it had been impossible to make a complete investigation.

He said shipments of ammunition since the war were chiefly to the United Kingdom and France. For October munitions exports to them totalled \$1,104,744 worth of cartridges; \$539,360 worth of firearms and \$1,114,000 worth of gun powder. Since the European war began there is no record of shipments of war munitions to Germany, Russia, Belgium or Servia.

STEAMER POUNDS TO 1 PIECES AT VENTURA

VENTURA, Cal., Dec. 19.—Backing into a wharf here early today to take on a cargo, the steamer Coos Bay swung against the structure, pounded it to pieces under a heavy swell and wrecked herself. Captain James Bowen, master of the vessel, said the ship probably would be a total loss.

The Coos Bay was a wooden vessel of 544 gross tons, built in 1884. She has been plying between San Francisco and Ventura.

DEAD GAME WARDEN HAD NOT DRAWN GUN WHEN POACHER SHOT HIM DOWN AT CLOSE RANGE WITH A 30-30 RIFLE

That Loris Martin, the game poacher who murdered Game Warden A. S. Hubbard, lay in ambush for his victim with his 30-30 rifle, murdering him in cold blood, and then sought to build up a defense for himself by taking out the slain warden's revolver and placing it near the prostrate figure of the dead officer, is the belief of those who picked up and brought back the corpse from the lonely cabin nine miles from Trail near the head of Trail creek. The coroner's inquest will be held Monday at Per's parlors, when the story of the crime will be rehearsed in detail.

Lay in Wait for Victim

Game Warden Hubbard's presence in the Trail district was known to Martin, if customs of the past were observed by the residents who phone ahead the coming of the agents of the law. He may have known that a search warrant had been issued for his premises, and watched Hubbard and Constable Irwin, on the tour that ended in their finding contraband meat in his cabin, knowing that his arrest was inevitable. When the victim and his companion first saw Martin he was standing on the

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NEW SULTAN OF EGYPT NAMED BY BRITISH MINISTRY

LONDON, Dec. 19.—King George today sent a message to Hussein Kemal, whose appointment as sultan of Egypt was announced yesterday, assuring him of his sincere friendship and unflinching support in safeguarding the integrity of Egypt.

"Your highness has been called to undertake the responsibilities of your high office at a grave crisis in the national life of Egypt," the message continues.

"I am convinced that you will be able, with the co-operation of your ministers and the protectorate of Great Britain, successfully to overcome all influences which are seeking to destroy the independence of Egypt and the wealth, liberty and happiness of its people."

NO VIOLATION OF NEUTRALITY AT CANAL

WASHINGTON, Dec. 19.—Colonel Goethals, governor of the canal zone, according to information to the British embassy today, which was communicated to the state department, has found that the British collier which was thought to have violated the neutrality of the Panama canal zone waters by sending a wireless message, actually had no wireless equipment. It is understood the message in question was sent by another ship, which, however, was outside the three-mile limit.

FRANK REFUSED WRIT BY COURT

ATLANTA, Ga., Dec. 19.—A petition for a writ of habeas corpus for the release of Leo M. Frank, under death sentence for the murder of Mary Phagan was refused today by Judge W. T. Newman in the United States district court.

Judge Newman granted Frank's attorneys permission to appeal to the United States supreme court. The judge stated in reply to objections of Solicitor General Dorsey, that the granting of an appeal was not discretionary with the court.

New Year's Issue

The Mail Tribune's annual New Year's issue will be finer than ever this year. Special attention will be paid to the tourist attractions of southern Oregon, including the scenic beauties, world wonders and paved highways. The issue will be better illustrated than any of our previous New Year's issues—and that is going some.

It is necessary to know in advance how many papers will be required, so place your order now. Last year the issue comprised thirty-eight pages and exceeded 10,000 copies. Help make the edition 15,000 this year. Price 5 cents per issue. Mailed to any address by the office for 10 cents.

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